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# Worldwide Report

EPIDEMIOLOGY

No. 276



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28 April 1982

# WORLDWIDE REPORT

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# AUTHORITIES FEAR STAPH STRAIN MAY BE IMMUNE TO DRUGS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 22 Feb 82 p 1

[Article by Mark Methereil]

[Text]

Health authorities fear that an organism linked with more than 100 deaths in Victorian hospitals may develop resistance to the only drug which is still entirely effective in combating it.

Recent cases of the infection in Melbourne hospitals have shown that the organism, a type of golden staph germ, can resist all but one of five drugs that had been effective against it.

The organism, methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), has caused what some doctors describe as an "epidemic" in many of Melbourne's big hospitals.

The Health Commission is now issuing hospitals with revised guidelines, prepared by its standing committee on infection control, for the prevention and control of MRSA.

In the 40-page guidelines booklet, the committee states that only one drug, vancomycin, "can be relied upon for empirical treatment of serious infections".

It says: "There is concern that the increasing use of vancomycin may select out vancomycin-resistant strains of MRSA with the result that there will no longer be any effective antibiotic therapy against these organisms."

Microbiologists have told 'The Age' that the difficulty with MRSA is that frequent use of any

particular antibiotic actually encourages the elusive organism to develop resistance to that drug.

The bug, which for no known reason because a significant problem in Melbourne hospitals in 1979, is now finding its way into big hospitals in other States.

The Health Commission has estimated that about 10 per cent of Victorian public hospital patients are contaminated by MRSA. Most of these patients are "colonised" carriers and the organism does them no harm.

But when the highly infectious organism infects debilitated patients it can prove fatal. Stringent infection control measures, estimated to be costing hospitals \$3 million a year, have failed to stamp out the disease. Some hospitals have shown a slight decrease in cases while others have battled unsuccessfully to reduce the infection rate.

The organism can be spread through the air or by touch. Measures to control it have included greatly increased use of gowns and masks by staff, patients and visitors. The number of isolation rooms and wards has been hospitals.

The most likely victims of MRSA infection are the aged, surgical patients, those on drugs which weaken resistance, and sickly babies.

The number of MRSA-infected patients who have died is estimated at more than 100, but the part the organism played in these increased considerably in many deaths is still the subject of medical debate. Doctors dispute whether MRSA itself, or conditions such as pneumonia stemming from the patient's initial illness, was the prime cause of death.

The director of the Health Commission's hospitals division, Dr David Race, said the incidence of MRSA was not falling as fast as the commission would like. Three MRSA patients or their relatives have complained to 'The Age' that they had experienced excessive secrecy from hospitals and doctors about the real nature of their illness.

Dr Race denied that hospitals were covering up, but said that hospital administrators might be reluctant to highlight the incidence of the illness because this could limit the effectiveness of hospital treatment, Dr Race said.

"They are concerned about having to resort to measures that are really unnecessary," he said.



# \$3 MILLION TO FIGHT STAPH IN VICTORIA; GERM MOVES NORTH

## State Grant

Melbourne THE AGE in English 2 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by Mark Metherell]

[Text] Doctors' and nursing groups yesterday questioned the time it had taken for the State Government to grant hospitals money to combat the drug-resistant golden staph germ.

The Victorian president of the Australian Medical Association, Professor Aubrey Pitt, said he welcomed the \$3 million grant announced on Friday to help hospitals fight the germ.

"It is a pity it was not made available earlier," he said. "The Minister of Health (Mr Borthwick) should recognise that this may not be enough."

Mr Borthwick announced the \$3 million grant on Friday, some hours after his office had been informed of an investigation by 'The Age' into the epidemic involving methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA).

The Health Commission's standing committee on infection control has found that the State's big hospitals would rapidly become very dangerous for patients and staff unless urgent steps were taken to stop the spread of the germ.

MRSA became a serious problem in 1979 when 2500 patients in Melbourne hospitals were found to be infected or colonised (where the germ is carried with no ill-effects to patients).

The Victorian branch of the Royal Australian Nursing Federation said yesterday that in several wage negotiations in recent years it had made a significant issue of the extra pressures MRSA patients placed on nurses.

The secretary of the branch, Mrs Barbara Carson, said that in quite a few hearings of the Registered Nurses Conciliation and Arbitration Board, the nurses had raised the difficulties caused by MRSA.

The need for barrir nursing of patients with MRSA made nursing more time-consuming and ad-

versely affected the nurse-patient ratio, Mrs Carson said.

"I think MRSA has aggravated the workload of nurses and my understanding is that nursing establishments in hospitals have not been expanded to cope with it," she said.

Professor Pitt said that MRSA was not a new problem for Melbourne hospitals. Last Friday's \$3 million grant highlighted the need for proper financing of hospitals, Professor Pitt said.

The chairman of the Victorian Hospitals' Association, Mr Len Swinden, said that all the hospitals knew about the grant was what they had read in the Press.

"We are all waiting for advice about the financial position generally," Mr Swinden said.

Anti-MRSA measures were a significant cost factor for the Victorian hospitals, which according to the State Opposition, could face deficits totalling \$50 million this year.

## Spread in Queensland

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 2 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by Philip Hammond]

[Excerpt]

The drug resistant germ golden staph, which has been linked with 100 deaths in Victoria, was widespread in Queensland hospitals, it was confirmed last night.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital medical superintendent, Dr John Golledge, said 28 patients were isolated at his hospital, and state-wide, "hundreds" of hospital patients had the infection.

The Health Minister, Mr Austin, said golden staph had not been the cause of any deaths in Queensland, as far as it was known.

Dr Golledge emphasised that healthy people faced no risk from the antibiotic-resistant germ.

"In itself, it is not a particularly worrying organism. It is a problem with a limited number of patients," he said.

"They are usually critically ill, following major vascular or radical cancer surgery, or suffering multiple injuries."

CSO: 5400/7538

# EPIDEMICS THREATENED DUE TO DROP IN IMMUNIZATIONS

Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 27-28 Feb 82 p 3

[Article by Peter Terry]

[Text] A MEDICAL survey shows 40 per cent of children are at risk because their parents have failed to have them immunised against dangerous diseases.

Every child is a potential candidate for such sicknesses as diphtheria, tetanus and polio.

The survey, by Perth's Princess Margaret Children's Hospital, has shocked medical authorities, and yesterday brought a warning from West Australian Health Minister, Mr Young, that it posed a threat of new epidemics.

A spokesman for the State's Health Commission said parent complacency was the main problem.

"People presume that because the diseases are no longer discussed they just don't exist any more — but they most certainly do," he said.

"They are still an epidemic in some developing countries.

"When people are aware of a disease, like our recent problem with whooping cough, we get floods of children coming in.

"But diseases like polio they forget about — it's this complacency which frightens us."

A Princess Margaret Hospital spokesman said a new polio outbreak was not out of the question.

"There was an outbreak recently in Holland — and no-one expected that," he said.

"It happened in a remote community which, on religious grounds, had refused to

have its children immunised.

"Suddenly they had an epidemic of polio. Unless we can get more children immunised, we create the same sort of environment here."

He said the drop in child immunisation had been gradual, but the survey of children attending the hospital's outpatients department had shown only 60 per cent had immunisations up to date.

A similar decline in immunisation rate had been found in other States.

"One of the troubles is that not all mothers take their children to infant health clinics after they are born," the spokesman said.

"Our figures suggest that only 80 per cent of mothers attend.

"That means it is the family doctor, or the mother herself who is responsible for ensuring the child is immunised.

"Because of this split in responsibility, we do not have any systematic recording of which children are immunised and which are not.

## CAMPAIGN

"We really do need a national system to check on child immunisation."

The West Australian Government is launching a campaign to increase immunisation.

Mr Young said the last big epidemic of polio in the State was in 1956, when 400 cases were reported.

All those who arrived  
early were left very seriously  
injured, he said.

Within 12 months, immuni-  
sation reduced the number of  
cases to a handful.

The last were reported in  
1972.

It would be a tragedy if this  
situation were allowed to lapse

through parents becoming ap-  
athetic about the need to have  
their children immunised.

"There is no doubt the dis-  
eases are still around, and  
would sweep like a flood  
through an unimmunised  
community."

CSO: 5400/7538

## AUSTRALIA

### BRIEFS

RISE IN TB--Canberra--The incidence of tuberculosis is increasing in Australia, partly because of complacency towards what is often regarded as an "old-fashioned" disease, according to the National Tuberculosis Advisory Council. After a steady decline in the number of cases of tuberculosis from about 55 per 100,000 population in the early 1950s to 10 per 100,000 in 1976, tuberculosis is re-emerging as a high-risk public health problem. In 1980 there were 1,531 new and reactivated cases of tuberculosis, giving a rate of 10.47 per 100,000 people. The latest issue of Health, the Department of Health journal, contains a warning from the Advisory Council that doctors and the public have lowered their guard against tuberculosis. Between 1948 and 1976, the Commonwealth and State Governments spent about \$300 million on reducing the rate of tuberculosis. When the joint program was abandoned in 1976, the compulsory mass x-ray programs were replaced with limited voluntary surveys. This has resulted in the loss of a most valuable diagnostic tool previously used to identify tuberculosis in its early stages. [By Greg Turnbull] [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 20 Feb 82 p 19]

CSO: 5400/7537

BRIEFS

MYSTERY CHILDREN'S DISEASE--Feni, March 16:--A mysterious disease along with the amaenic syndrome and micro-nutrient defficiency has gripped 17 families under Dhalia Union of Feni subdivision. Twenty children between one year and two years of age have ever since January last grown emaciated to near skeleton and lost eye sight. No medicines not even the 'satan-whipping' by the exorcists could have brought any remedy so far. The victims symptomatically suffer from indigestion, diarrhoea, headache and opthalmic disorders. Night blindness is the ultimate end of the eye trouble. Of late elderly persons of these families, living in one house only under Mashimpur village are becoming victims of this affliction. A team of physicians headed by Dr. Khalilur Rahman consultant, Feni Modernised Hospital, visited the house and collected blood to determine the pathogen factors. Meanwhile innumerable white clouts are fluttering atop bamboo staves around the house at short intervals to scare away the satan. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Mar 82 p 7]

CSO: 5400/7060



# MINISTER MAPS INDUSTRIAL, GENERAL HEALTH STRATEGY

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 16 Mar 82 p 1

[Text]

The Barbados Government will soon embark on an organised programme of occupational health to help combat health hazards brought about through increased industrialisation and technological advances.

In announcing this yesterday, Health Minister Mr Lloyd Brathwaite said that a survey of factories on the industrial estates has already started.

The Minister said the survey was necessary so as to locate workers and observe their conditions under which they work, before being able, where necessary, to advise and follow-up in order to prevent or mitigate any untoward effects.

Mr. Brathwaite spoke at the ceremony held to mark the 25th anniversary of the St. Philip Health Centre. The ceremony took place at the Centre, Six Roads, St. Philip.

Mr. Brathwaite said that the country's health strategy for the future must be on a two-front basis, consolidating past successes, and attacking new problems as well as the unsolved ones.

He pointed out that there is still work to be done in the control of diseases for which the health profession had the knowledge and the effective tools.

Citing an example, the Minister said that more can be done towards reducing the number of cases of tetanus and tuberculosis, while in the area of environmental health, more can be done to ensure

safe food and sanitary disposal of sewage.

He emphasised that the control of chronic non-communicable diseases will be one of Government's major concerns in the future.

He said too that efforts had been made in the public health clinics to tackle these areas, but the activities needed better planning and co-ordination.

"Prevention of disabilities and rehabilitation of the handicapped are other areas needing attention; likewise the prevention of traffic and other accidents," Mr. Brathwaite said.

Mr. Brathwaite also had something to say about the education system as it relates to health.

He charged that in spite of advances made in education, a high literacy rate and better communications, there is still a gap between existing health knowledge and the public's use of it.

According to the Minister: "Many parents do not obtain immunisation for their children until forced by legislation to do so when the child enters school."

He said people still continue to smoke in spite of the known dangers; people still drink and drive thus inviting injury and death not only to themselves, but also to others.

He said too that alcoholism is rife in the society, and added that where people do not act to protect themselves there is surely a challenge to the health educator to find new means of getting things done.

MEDICAL OFFICER ISSUES WARNING ON INCIDENCE OF LEPROSY

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] The high prevalence rate of infectious leprosy in Barbados, some 14 cases out of every 100 000 persons, is very dangerous to the rest of the community.

This is the view of Medical Officer of Health Dr. K.R. Rao, who disclosed yesterday that the Ministry of Health would be embarking on a case-finding programme on a continuing basis.

His remarks were made during a workshop on Leprosy Control, which was part of the continuing medical education conference at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. It is sponsored jointly by the Ministry of Health, the Faculty of Medicine of the University of the West Indies and the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO).

Dr. Rao said that there were a total of 36 known leprosy cases in the island, of which 33 were known as Lepromatous Leprosy (infectious). Of the reported cases, 29 were being treated as out-patients, while the other seven are inmates of the Hillside Home, formerly known as the Lazaretto.

However, he cautioned that data on the prevalence of leprosy in most countries was unreliable because neither case-finding nor reporting was accurate. So that the figures given for Barbados might not reflect the true state of the situation, he said.

He added that the seriousness of the situation

could not be determined by the prevalence rate alone, but also by the duration of the disease and the disabilities which it causes.

Dr. Rao said that the fact that there were so many infectious cases meant that there was a significant reservoir of the Leprosy Bacillus in the community, acting like a smouldering fire in the society.

Dr. Rao said that the available figures showed that in the majority of the cases, the patients were over 60 years of age (28), while there have been no cases reported for children under the age of 14.

He noted that the main tragedy of the situation in Barbados was the fact that patients believe that once they have been discharged from the hospital that they have been cured, in spite of the disabilities which they can see.

In addition, he said, most of them believe that they have the right kind of information on the disease when they do not. He said some of them have been brain-washed into resisting taking any kind of corrective measures and also into thinking that the treatment would only make the disease worse.

Of the 36 cases, 21 are male and 15 female. The parish of St. Michael accounts for the largest portion — 22 —, while there are eight in Christ Church, three in St. Lucy (in one family) and one each in the parishes of St. Peter, St.

Thomas and St. Philip.

Dr. Rao said the classification was done on the basis of place of birth and not residence.

He said that in 14 of the reported cases, the patients could not walk, which was nothing short of a calamity for the patients when it came on top of other disabilities such as blindness. He said 27 of the patients are currently being treated, while the others have refused treatment.

One of the problems, he said, in getting victims of the disease to accept treatment is that they do not want to go near the precincts of the hospital.

He noted that the main reason for such behaviour was the attitude of the community family which does not want to show tolerance and accept the patients as they are.

As a consequence, he said, the patients become apathetic, which could only result in harm to them and to the community.

He added that the patients then become aggressively resentful and indulge in recriminations before resigning themselves to the disease and try to hide it, thereby opening themselves to serious disabilities, or irreducible disfigurements.

Dr. Rao said the Ministry of Health would be carrying out a case-finding programme on a continuing basis which would be followed up with compassion.

CAMEROON

BRIEFS

MEASLES OUTBREAK IN YAOUNDE--For some weeks now, there has been an outbreak of measles in the capital, and possibly all over the country. For this reason, the Ministry of Public Health has, beginning Monday, organized a vaccination campaign throughout the city of Yaounde. [Excerpt]  
[AB130804 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 13 Apr 82 AB]

CSO: 5400/5926

## BRIEFS

OUESSO DISTRICT MEASLES EPIDEMIC--With an average of 20-25 consultations per day, for more than 2 months, measles has become a subject of concern for many families and the hospital center in Ouesso District. The last recorded epidemic goes back to 1980 with the sole variant that this year's epidemic has exceeded by far the critical point. All of a sudden the reception facilities at the hospital center were "clogged up." More than 30 small patients previously counted in the pediatric services and many other sick children were admitted on an out patient basis. The disease, of viral origin is an epidemic affliction very often eruptive and contagious in our country. It is usually benign but its complications are often serious and mortal. With the help of specialists we propose to give a line of action to our readers. The extent of this disease is due to a certain number of factors: reluctance of mothers [to seek treatment for their children] owing to fetishist practices, ineffectiveness of vaccines as a result of poor conservation, and the lack of pharmaceutical products in local pharmacies for patients who have already contracted the disease, the difficulties of isolating already affected subjects. A major problem consists in persuading mothers to take the children to the hospital center as soon as the disease breaks out. The center for major endemic diseases should be equipped with a generator to better conserve the vaccines. The Pharmaceutical Company of the Congo [SOCOPHAR] should constitute a rather large stock of products to confront this epidemic. [Text] [Brazzaville ETUMBA in French No 631, 13 Feb 82 p 11]

CSO: 5400/5930

## BRIEFS

SPINAL MENINGITIS DEATHS--A deadly disease, cerebral spinal meningitis (inflammation of the spine) popularly known as "CSM" has claimed the lives of 20 people in seven villages in the Northern Region. This was disclosed to the GRAPHIC at Tamale by Dr Sam Bugri, officer in-charge of the rural health care in the region. Dr Bugri said following instructions from the Chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC), Flt. Lt. J. J. Rawlings, who learnt of the situation during his recent visit to Tamale, the department of Epidemiology of the Ministry of Health in Accra ordered that a team of health personnel be dispatched from Tamale to the affected areas to give the people medical attention. According to Dr Bugri, several victims of the disease who are mostly Konkombas were refused access to the rural health post at Zabzugu because the inhabitants of that village feared they would contract the disease. He said consequently, surviving victims abandoned their villages at Larbanga, Bali, Nakpali, Shreni, Nibondo, Sabon-Gida and Nyemage and sought refuge in other villages where they unfortunately spread the disease further. Health personnel have so far provided treatment for 3,000 persons in 20 villages suspected to have been affected by the disease. [Text] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 20 Mar 82 p 8]

CSO: 5400/5948

## BRIEFS

VACCINATION CAMPAIGN RESULTS--The vaccination campaign begun last week in the Catio sector--Tombali--is to end next Saturday, concluding the protection of about a fifth of this area's population (24,000 inhabitants) against the country's six most recurrent and dangerous diseases, including measles, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis. The campaign organizers intend to expand and decentralize it, first by preventing the spread of disease against which it will protect children to age five, and second, because they will conduct the campaign beginning with the local health centers in each section of the area, with four local teams who are to spread out by bicycle, car or on foot among the many health booths. Preparation for the campaign was made by each of these teams who, assembled in discussion groups in November, mapped out the work plan, duration and the measures to be adopted, to the last detail, which constituted an unprecedented achievement. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 27 Jan 82 p 3] 8870

CSO: 5400/5931



## BRIEFS

WHOOPIING COUGH DEATHS--Jammu, March 24 (UNI)--More than 30 children have died of whooping cough in Warwan village, in the Doda district of Jammu region, in the past one week. According to a delayed official report received here most of the children were below the age of ten. The village which is in the Kishtwar tehsil of the district remains cut-off from the rest of the State during winter. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Sheikh Abdullah, who is also the Minister for Health has directed the health department to rush a team of doctors to check the disease from spreading further. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Mar 82 p 4]

REWA JAUNDICE CASES--Rewa, March 22 (UNI): Jaundice claimed more than 80 lives in the Rewa Medical College in Madhya Pradesh till February end, according to Dr. M. P. Dwivedi, professor and head of the social and preventive medicine department. He told UNI that the disease was epidemic in the region and a total of 331 cases of infective hepatitis and hepatic coma had been admitted on the medical wards since January. Of them, 83 died, he added. Dr. Dwivedi said the figures related to only a single department of the hospital. Dr. Dwivedi said the disease was spreading in a virulent form. Water samples collected from different localities have been sent for chemical analysis to Ghopal. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Mar 82 p 19]

ITANAGAR GASTROENTERITIS EPIDEMIC--Itanagar, March 28 (PTI)--At least 32 persons died of gastro-enteritis at village Geku about 50 km from Pasighat, the district headquarters of East Siang district, in the past 10 days, according to a spokesman of the State health directorate. He told PTI here today that the disease had broken out in an epidemic form. A medical team, including three doctors, rushed to the village and brought the situation under control. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 29 Mar 82 p 4]

CSO: 5400/7059

## ELEVEN DIE IN FRESH OUTBREAKS OF CHOLERA

Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 13 Mar 82 p 9

[Text]

A fresh outbreak of cholera has killed seven people and infected over 166 others in Samia and Bunyala Locations of Busia District.

Sto Port Health Centre in Samia is overcrowded with cholera patients. In Busia District Hospital a cholera observation ward had been set up to deal with additional cases.

Health officials in Busia confirmed that cholera had remained in the area since it was first detected by the end of January. They attributed the outbreak of disease to dirty water adding that Uganda might be another source as several cases had come from there.

A fully equipped medical team had been dispatched to the affected areas to deal with the situation, he added.

Meanwhile, the Director of Communicable Diseases, Dr. Siengok, accompanied by the Western Provincial Medical Officer, Dr.

Okombo toured cholera affected areas on Thursday.

--Four people are suspected to have died of cholera in Ukwala Division of Siaya District between February 26 and March 9, Naphtaly Otieno Awiti reports.

Reports reaching Kisumu said a victim from Siranga Sub-Location in North Ugenya location was admitted to Ukwala Health Centre vomiting and diarrhoea-ing. His condition worsened and he was later transferred to Siaya District Hospital where he died. The cause of death was suspected to be cholera.

On March 2, a woman victim was rushed to the same centre with similar symptoms and died the following day.

The report further said that a man and his wife from Simuru Sub-location suspected to be suffering from a peculiar disease were admitted to Siaya District Hospital where they died on the same day.

Sources close to relatives said that a man from Siranga Sub-Location complained of vomiting and diarrhoea on March 9 and died the same day.

Earlier, members of the cholera surveillance team from the centre went to Mrs. Sewe's home and took his specimen.

Although health officials at Siaya were not available for comment, sources confirmed that a number of suspected cholera cases had been dealt with at Okwala Health Centre.

In August 1981, cholera surveillance team was sent to Ukwala to carry out mass immunisation.

Health officials had since been advising people in the division to apply simple preventive measures, like using the latrines and boiling drinking water to avoid the spread of cholera.

CSO: 5400/5925

## BRIEFS

DURANGO POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGN--Durango--During a brief ceremony held at 0900 hours at Health Center Number 2, the intensive phase of the campaign against polio was inaugurated, with, as its goal, the administration of 160,000 Sabine vaccine injections in 350 villages of the state with more than 500 inhabitants. Raquel Kaffman, the director of the DIF [System for Complete Family Development], also representing the state president of the system, launched the project. Also attending were the state delegates from the SSA [Secretariat of Health and Assistance], the ISSSTE [Institute of Social Security and Services for Government Workers] and IMSS [Mexican Social Security Institute], along with Maria Luisa de la Pena, the president of the municipal DIF committee. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO (in Spanish 20 Jan 82 p F2) 8956

CSO: 5400/2085

## PRIORITY TASKS IN HEALTH PLANNING LISTED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] The Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of Mozambique released an activity plan regarding tasks considered priority by the National Directorate of Medical Assistance and Preventive Medicine [DNMP], a source connected with this organization and made known to NOTICIAS yesterday.

As regards the hygiene and social network area, the DNMP foresees the opening of 224 health stations, construction and expansion projects or improvement in a rural hospital and in 11 centers, with priority given to health units located in extensive development-project zones, as well as construction of a children's center in Maputo.

For combating and controlling leprosy, health work will begin first in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Zambezi provinces, including control of the sick undergoing treatment and investigation of those not under treatment, tracking down new cases and selecting the sick with cured lesions.

Within the context of combating and controlling tuberculosis, throughout the year there will be supervisory visits and control of activities in the entire country and supervision of the sick in at least 70 percent of cases.

The DNMP calls for the Water and Food Sanitation Laboratory to periodically analyze the water, especially water for human consumption, and to control the rural water supply with priority given to communal villages.

Regarding environmental sanitation, the DNMP notes that this program is aimed particularly at mobilizing the population for the proper elimination of excreta, the correct disposal of garbage and improvement of drinking water and housing conditions.

According to the DNMP, mother-child health care programs are a priority this year, including prenatal consultation, hospital childbirth, and preventive consultations for children from birth to age five.

The expanded vaccination program calls for 60 percent of the children born last year to be vaccinated against measles, 60 percent of children born this year to receive BCG vaccine (pulmonary tuberculosis vaccine) and 45 percent of

children born in the second half of 1981 and the first half of 1982 to be vaccinated against diphtheria, whooping cough, lockjaw and poliomyelitis. All pupils will be vaccinated against tetanus on entering first grade.

The battle against malaria is one of the priorities determined by DNMP, which anticipates chemoprophylaxis (a chemical method of prevention of diseases by medication) of pupils in slum and holoendemic areas (areas where, because of poor sanitary conditions, diseases spread more easily) and the antivectorial battle (against disease carriers, for example, mosquitoes, snails, flies, etc.) existing in some areas of the country.

To combat schistosomiasis, an ecological, parasitological and malacological survey will be made in communal settlements; improvement of sanitation conditions, in the methods of supply of water, treatment of diseases, antivectorial combat, and evaluation and control will be sought.

#### Trainign of Paramedical Personnel

In the project of activities which our country's Ministry of Health is to undertake this year, the RPM Institute of Health Sciences will graduate 26 medical aides, seven dental assistants, 56 pharmaceutical aides, 20 teaching technicians, 117 male nurses, 23 midwives, 66 laboratory assistants and microscope operators, 17 child-care assistants and 14 administrative technicians.

8870

CSO: 5400/5931



BRIEFS

MEASLES PATIENTS TREATED--Mahendranagar, April 1--The Kanchanpur district hospital has treated two hundred measles patients in the past two months, reports RSS. According to the hospital sources, six measles patients on an average, are visiting the hospital daily. Meanwhile, it is learnt that the hospital has run short of medicines necessary for treating the measles. [Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 2 Apr 82 p 2]

CSO: 5400/5944

## KHYBER AGENCY REPORTS ON LEPROSY

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 25 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by Dr Anwar M. Ujager]

[Text]

Leprosy has been, and is still a considerable problem in NWFP with 2990 patients under treatment, and 350 new patients being detected every year.

In 1982, the Provincial Government, with the help of Mission Hospital, Peshawar and Marie Adelaide Leprosy Centre, Karachi has started a three-pronged attack on Leprosy, surveying the Province systematically. The first report of the Khyber Agency Survey Team has just been received.

In Khyber Agency 60 patients are known who are registered in Mission Hospital, Peshawar. Expectedly, these patients have been seeking medical help only in the advanced stages of the disease; thus 72 per cent are suffering from the infectious type, and 25 per cent showed already deformities, on the date of registration. Early case detection has been impossible

until 1982 when the two tribal candidates completed their Leprosy Technicians Training in M.A.C., Karachi and returned. They started work in the Agency in February 1982.

Preliminary results (6 to 18.2.82) are

Of 20 patients registered in Mission Hospital as originating from Landhi Kot and Jamrud Tehsils.

5 have been traced and taken under regular treatment,

2 have been identified to originate from Afghanistan,

7 are living in Tirah,

6 have not yet been traced, as addresses given were incomplete.

17 family members of known patients were examined and found healthy; the majority of contacts is living in Tirah. Health Staff of both Tehsil is well aware of Leprosy, thanks to health education campaign carried out in 1978.

Public however is largely unaware, having some knowledge on Leprosy in Landhi Kot Area, and no knowledge at all in Jamrud Area. Notification in 16 villages, to the health personnel and to schools gave no new cases.

Examination of 895 children in 12 schools in Jamrud Tehsil likewise did not reveal any Leprosy cases, though 3 children were kept under observation for suspected signs.

The preliminary survey findings strongly suggest that the Leprosy focus will be found in Tirah.

After completing the School Surveys in Jamrud in February 82, the Survey Team will move to Baroa, and proceed to Tirah in the Middle of March.

CSO: 5400/5951

## BRIEFS

TUBERCULOSIS SUFFERERS IN SIND--KARACHI, April 2--The Provincial Minister for Health and Information, Syed Ahad Yusuf said about 400,000 persons were suffering from tuberculosis in the province. In a message to Tuberculosis Control Committee of Sind Medical College and Jinnah Post-Graduate Medical Centre, he expressed the hope that the scientific seminar which began today on the occasion of Koch's centenary would come out with particable recommendations to control and eradicate the disease. The Health Minister further said according to conservative estimate approximately 400,000 people were suffering from tuberculosis in Sind out of which 40,000 cases were found ineffective. Appreciating the efforts of the Committee for organising scientific seminar, Mr. Ahad Yusuf hoped that it will give concrete and valuable suggestions to eradicate the disease. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Apr 82 p 6]

TUBERCULOSIS CASES IN BALUCHISTAN--Quetta, March 25--As many as 80,000 tuberculosis cases were detected in the province, while the number of infection cases in the province were estimated at 12,000 APP learnt here today. It is further estimated that the number of tuberculosis patients amongst Afghan refugees are three times higher than the local population, approximately 30,000 tuberculosis cases are present amongst Afghan refugees in the province.--APP [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 26 Mar 82 p 1]

CSO: 5400/5951

# AREA STATES COOPERATE TO ERADICATE MALARIA

Manama GULF MIRROR in English 20-26 Mar 82 p 2

[Text]

**THE GULF states are to make an all-out effort to eradicate malaria from the region.**

An Arab general secretariat for health committee meeting in Doha this week decided to go for complete eradication rather than control of the disease as far as indigenous cases are concerned.

"This is something the Gulf states are quite capable of doing — there is no reason for there to be malaria in the area," said Bahrain's head of environmental health, Mr Ali Anjawi. "Unfortunately we will never be able to stop imported cases of the disease from other malaria-infected areas."

## Variations

Bahrain was commended for being free of malaria for the last three years and the country has applied to the World Health Organisation for official recognition as a malaria-free area.

The incidence of malaria in the Gulf varies quite considerably from country to country. "There are thousands of indigenous cases in Oman, parts of the UAE and areas of Saudi Arabia, mainly in the centre and north of the Kingdom. However, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and northern and eastern

Saudi Arabia are free," Mr Anjawi said.

An institute for malaria control is to be set up in the Jizan area of Saudi Arabia which will cater for the whole area. "There is already a centre for the Gulf in Iraq which deals with general insect control but we have decided that one is not enough and we need one centre to specialise in malaria," Mr Anjawi explained.

Each country is to concentrate on engineering works and biological control to eradicate malaria rather than rely on insecticide which merely controls it. This means improving drainage to get rid of the stagnant water in which the Anopheles mosquito — the carrier of malaria — breeds.

## Safer

It also means using a special fish that feeds on mosquito larvae and bacteria which will destroy the larvae.

"As far as pollution of the environment is concerned, these biological methods are much safer than using insecticide," Mr Anjawi said.

Finally, there will be emphasis on health education to make the public aware of the moves to eradicate malaria, and a high council for environmental control is to be set up in each country to monitor progress.

## TAIWAN BANS SA GOODS AS CHOLERA RISK

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 29 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Taiwan, one of South Africa's fastest expanding export markets, has banned certain agricultural, fishery and animal products from the Republic because of cholera.

The massive setback in a market worth R71-million in foreign exchange in 1980 comes with the listing by the World Health Organisation of South Africa as an area infected by cholera.

Taiwan decided immediately to stop the importation of certain agricultural, fishery and animal products. They fill a 16-page document and include almost every commodity except maize.

The ban was announced at the weekend by the Chamber of Commerce.

In 1980, South Africa supplied 42.6 percent of all Taiwan's agricultural imports. Chickens, meat, vegetables, fruit, eggs, horse-tail hair, snails, birds' feathers, eels, bait, shellfish, bloodmeal and grain were but a few of them.

The main areas in South Africa affected by cholera are Natal and kwaZulu. Recently organisms were

found in shellfish along the coast, and also in three Natal rivers.

The disease has killed nearly 100 people since last year.

South Africa has been making major drives to expand trade with Taiwan since it was dumped by the United States after its detente moves with communist China.

The most publicised of these was when the Prime Minister Mr P W Botha, visited the state. There have since been numerous trade missions between the countries.

The ban is a major blow to South Africa's multimillion-rand trade with Taiwan, which was predicted to double in the next few years.

Earlier this year a deal was signed for 1 800 000 tons of South African maize to be exported there over three years. It appears that this deal is not affected by the ban.

Other major trade deals included the sale of 45 million tons of coal a year.

## BRIEFS

MARBURG FEVER--Seven nurses have been released from quarantine at Newcastle Hospital, where they were being detained after having had contact with a Marburg fever suspect. A hospital spokesman said one sister and six nurses were now back on ward duty. And at Riefontein Hospital near Johannesburg a young Iscor worker, a Mr van Biljon, is now well again, the hospital superintendent, Mr Bennie Miller, said. The patient was still in the hospital awaiting final clearance from the United States that he had not suffered from the deadly Marburg fever or a related virus. Mr van Biljon was brought to Johannesburg from Newcastle in a sealed isolation unit aboard a Hercules aircraft this month. He was found to be suffering from malaria but with other symptoms similar to Marburg fever. A Zimbabwean, he had been in South Africa for only 10 days when he became ill. [Text] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 28 Mar 82 p 15]

CHOLERA SPREADING--The incidence of cholera in South Africa is spreading. At the coastal holiday resort of Durban, cholera has been discovered in three rivers. This means that all the rivers in Durban are now infected and people have been warned not drink water or swim in any of the rivers. Meanwhile, reports from the South African state of Lebowa say that there has been an alarming outbreak of cholera in certain regions. Last week, 200 people were admitted to the (Blouberg) and (Helen Fans) health wards which usually had only one or two cases of cholera in the past. In a recent admission, 20 cases of cholera were confirmed and there was 1 death. Laboratory tests have shown that four of the residents of the (Touha) district, near the South African city of Port Elizabeth are suffering from the bubonic plague. At least 22 people, mostly from (Touha) are being treated in the hospital. Health officials say the situation in (Touha) is under control and that those people who were admitted to the hospital for observation after the weekend were not suffering from bubonic plague. [Text] [Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 12 Mar 82 LD]

RABIES, CHOLERA OUTBREAKS--Rabies has broken out in the South African national state of Lebowa. The chief veterinarian of the Lebowa Department of Agriculture says cattle in two districts have been dying of rabies. The Lebowa Department of Health is also conducting a campaign against cholera. More than 200 people have been treated for the disease in March. [Text] [Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 1 Apr 82 LD]



CHOLERA BEING BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL

Colombo SUN in English 26 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by Melanie John]

[Text]

Health authorities in Colombo will continue their campaign against cholera, though only four new cases have been reported over the past week.

Dr. T. H. R. Peiris, Chief Medical Officer of Health, told 'SUN' that for this year, 33 cases with two deaths have been reported in the Colombo municipal area upto yesterday.

These cases have been reported in the Colombo North areas of Mattakuliya, Modera, Madampitiya, and Grandpass North.

"It's mainly the shanty areas that are afflicted, and we have sent our health officials to those areas on a programme to educate the people on proper sanitation and preventive measures" Dr. Peiris said.

There were two admissions on Wednesday to the separate ward set up at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital.

CSO: 5400/5949

POOR SANITATION CAUSING DISEASES

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 1 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

CARELESS defecation accounts for about forty percent of ill health suffered by the Tanzania population, the head of the Health Education Services in the Ministry of Health, Ndugu J.V. Mbaga, has revealed.

He told participants of the on-going seminar on implementation of low-cost sanitation programmes in the country that the prevalent outbreaks of cholera, dysentery, typhoid, gastroenteritis and a variety of intestinal parasitic worms were a result of the people's indiscriminate defecation.

A research conducted by the ministry in rural areas of ten districts of the Mainland between 1979 and 1980 indicated that out of 21,431 houses checked, only 126 had sound water closets and 8,252 others had good pit latrines while 5,262 houses had dilapidated latrines, the remaining 7,791 had no toilet facilities.

The same exercise carried out in ten towns revealed that out of 1,058 houses investigated, 349 had suitable water closets, 432 had sound pit latrines while 239 had filthy toilet facilities with 38 others having none at all.

CSO: 5400/5932

## TANZANIA

### BRIEFS

ANTI-CHOLERA MEASURES--MOROGORO--The district anti-cholera committee has resolved to use militiamen and the police to search out people suspected of violating quarantine regulations. The committee's decision was prompted by the district medical officer's report that his hospital was continuing to receive new patients of the disease each day. The militiamen and the police accompanied by the district health officer, now patrol the town searching for brewers of local beer, believed to be one of the transmitters of the killer disease. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 22 Mar 82 p 3]

CSO: 5400/5943

RAW SEWAGE POLLUTING BEACH, CREATING HEALTH HAZARD

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN in English 14 Mar 82 p 3

[Excerpts] Want to see how the Government handles a serious health hazard affecting thousands of citizens? Then take a trip down to Chaguaramas anytime, there to inspect the rich load of human excreta pumped into the sea west of Chagville, with lots of people frolicking happily in the briny, grimy surf.

Because after years of talk followed by the most sincere promises to correct the inimical and at times smelly situation, a final remedy remains an unattainable goal.

The "villain" is the sewerage disposal system left intact by the Americans after we marched in the rain "to recapture we land". Having got back the land, we proceeded in customary Trini style not to do any maintenance and to leave everything to the various forms of rot that soon began eating into the under-sea cast-iron pipeline from a point obliquely opposite the front of the Convention Centre to tanks on Point Gourde for treatment.

In any civilised country, the beach would have been closed and the health authorities would have hastened to provide inoculations and also to carefully check out and trace all contacts of persons who bathed there. But not in Trinidad and Tobago. Both the Ministry of Health and the CDA felt that they had done their duty by putting up the signs--which of course were soon removed and installed in their "rightful" positions as wickets for windball cricket.

The misguided souls can be pardoned to some extent for continuing to enjoy the filth because the Chaguaramas Development Authority had told the world that corrective measures for stopping the spewing of solid and liquid human waste would have been completed in 1980.

Actually, the Chaguaramas Development Authority in January, 1980, announced it had awarded a local firm a nine-month contract to remedy the odious effluent escaping through faulty pipe, and to restore for usage an IMHOFF sewerage treatment tank on Point Gourde. A total of 1,166 metres of pipe were programmed to be laid from the heliport, under the neck of the bay distinguished by craft of the Yachting Association, to Masson Bay on the Point. It all sounded so impressive!

## Garbage

The infrequent visitor to the area would have been reassured and gone home feeling proud of the vigilant action by the authorities. Such a visitor would have come back in December of 1980 or March of 1982 and plunged in confidently; but his senses would have soon advised him that there had been no change in the shocking situation.

Attempts are being made to alleviate the problem by storing excreta in tanks near the heliport and pumping, say, weekly. Thus, excreta at sea now comes with almost tidal volume and the stench continues unabated, but with improved performance on damp, overcast days...a splendid indictment for "recaptured" territory bolstered by grandiose development plans that will never see the light of day.

CSO: 5400/7535

BRIEFS

HA TUYEN ANTIMALARIA EFFORTS--The SUC KHOE (HEALTH) journal recently carried an article praising Ha Tuyen Province for its antimalaria efforts. The article says: Thanks to effective countermeasures in recent years, the rate of people suffering from malaria in Ha Tuyen Province dropped from 0.14 percent in 1977 to more than 0.02 percent. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Apr 82 BK]

CSO: 5400/5934

## BRIEFS

MALARIA WARNING--Anyone going into the rural areas during the Easter or independence long weekends should take precautions against malaria. A University of Zimbabwe lecturer, Dr Victor Clarke, who for many years was at Blair Research Laboratories, said yesterday that the Easter weekend was traditionally a malaria time. Prophylactics should be taken before the visit and for three weeks afterwards. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 3 Apr 82 p 7]

CSO: 5400/5931



## 'RUDE PRAVO' ON PREVENTION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

AU061420 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 3 Apr 82 p 2

[Milan Pavlik article: "Nothing Must Be Neglected in Stables"]

[Text] There is currently an outbreak of foot and mouth disease affecting beef cattle in the western and northern regions of Europe. The sick animals are difficult to cure and often a considerable number of animals are lost. The disease has not yet appeared in our country, but it is known that it spreads easily. Therefore all possible measures are being taken in our country to prevent it from getting into our stables. The Czech Ministry of Agriculture and Food has already drawn the attention of its regional and district agricultural administrations to the necessity of strict preventive measures.

And this is as it should be, since our republic is one of the European states which already in the past few years very quickly dealt with the foot and mouth disease, Bang's disease and other beef cattle diseases. We also hold the first place in that wherever in Europe similar diseases occurred, our veterinary services were able to act quickly and in time.

The personnel of the veterinary services could have it easier in many respects if in all agricultural enterprises the personnel employed in stables would observe the zoo-veterinary rules. In addition to that, no outsiders, those who have nothing to do with caring for cattle, should enter the stables. It needs little for the disease to spread through them, affecting farm animals. This should be born in mind everywhere -- in every agricultural enterprise. The veterinary services are on the alert, consistently implementing all preventive measures. Consistency pays. In the current 5-year plan we are paying considerable attention to cattle raising and it would not pay us to neglect certain measures.

CSO: 5400/2132

MORE CASES OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE REPORTED ON FYN

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 5 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by Jens Trudso]

[Text] The 12th case of foot-and-mouth disease that was found on Fyn yesterday did not change the previous line in combatting the disease. The herd was destroyed and no decision has been made about vaccination.

"The latest cases do not change the decision to avoid vaccination as much as possible," Agriculture Minister Bjorn Westh told BERLINGSKE TIDENDE.

Since several days had gone by before the last outbreak of the disease was discovered yesterday, the minister of agriculture did not feel the disease was spreading rapidly.

The district veterinarian confirmed yesterday afternoon that a herd on a farm in Galdbjerg, southeast of Brenderup, Fyn, had been infected with foot-and-mouth disease.

The herd on the farm at Galdbjergvej 22 between Brenderup and Galdbjerg was destroyed. Some 100 cows and 40 pigs were involved.

Veterinary director Erik Stougaard informed us that a new outbreak was suspected at 10000 hours Sunday morning and the district veterinarian from West Sjaeeland who was sent to inspect the animals confirmed the presence of the disease at 1330 hours which was followed by a decision to destroy the herd.

Erik Stougaard said that the cases found are still confined to East Fun and it is important that farmers in the area break off all internal contacts in order to avoid spreading the infection further.

The 12 cases found so far lie within a 15-kilometer radius of Gislev in East Fyn. Around 3000 animals in all have been destroyed.

6578

CSO: 5400/2128

BRIEFS

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE--Berlin (ADN)--In seven kreise of the Rostock and Neubrandenburg Bezirke, foot and mouth disease was discovered in the middle of March. ADN interviewed Helmut Schwedler, chief of the GDR veterinary services. Question: How long will the protective and quarantine measures be in force? Answer: The protective and quarantine measures must remain in force--also at Easter--because in the area of the kreise mentioned in the press announcement of 2 April 1982 in the northeast of the republic there are still viruses in the environment. Thus the danger of the disease spreading continues. In order to protect the animal production additional measures had to be taken--for instance, the limitation of the passenger traffic. This, of course, involves burdens for many people. The length of the quarantine measures depends on the biological course of the disease and on the disinfection measures in the stables and their surroundings, which are necessary once the epizootic disease has ended. At present no date can be given for the lifting of the protective and quarantine measures in the kreise concerned. By sensible action and by disciplined observance of the epizootic protection regulations, everyone can and must support the work of the veterinaries and the state organs and thus contribute toward rapidly eliminating the disease. [Excerpts] [AU091126 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 8 Apr 82 p 2]

CSO: 5400/2132

# STRANGE CATTLE DISEASE THREATENS PROJECTS

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 8 Apr 82 p 3

[Text] Four hundred heads of cattle perished in a number of Upper Egypt governorates causing panic to cattle breeders and threatening the livestock wealth and fattening projects.

The Minister of Agriculture, Dr Yussef Wali, yesterday announced that an infectious animal disease, alien to the Egyptian environment, was the reason behind the losses cattle breeders suffered in the last few weeks.

Dr Wali said that infections were reported in Fayyum Beni Suif and Qena, three adjacent governorates, which means that the strange disease is highly infective.

However, strict measures adopted by the Ministry's veterinary car stations in Upper Egypt, the Minister said helped effectively to put the disease under control and the halt its spread over into the neighbouring governorates.

The Prime Minister, Dr Fuad Mohieddin, has paid due attention to this phenomenon and instructed that reports about the case should be submitted to his office so that he can follow-up the progress of efforts in this respect.

A team of 10 veterinaries of high calibre was rushed to places where the infections were detected. The team supervised the setting up of a quarantine area to check the spread of the sickness.

A vaccination programme has been started and the campaign comprised large numbers of cattle in the three governorates, an official source in the Ministry of Agriculture said.

People need to promote their awareness about the symptoms and effects of this disease while efforts are being exerted in co-operation with political and executive leaders in Upper Egypt.

The director of Animal Health Research Institute, Dr Saad Eddin Abdul Ghaffar, said that it was the first time that the symptoms of this disease have appeared in Egypt.

He added that when these symptoms appeared, all measures to fight the disease were taken and that infected cases were put under control. He said the disease was not infective to human beings.--GSS.

CSO: 5400/5011

## RINDERPEST, PLEURO-PNEUMONIA BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 28 Mar 82 pp 1, 5

[Text] ADDIS ABABA (EH)--Rinderpest and pleuro-pneumonia, diseases that entail serious economic impact on animal production, have been successfully brought under control in Ethiopia following the launching of the Joint Project (JP-15), that was carried out from 1968 to 1967.

In an interview with The Ethiopian Herald yesterday, Comrade Dr. Ayalew Ket-sela, a veterinary expert of the Veterinary Service Team, within the Animal Resources Development Department, said with the exception of a few provinces in the north the entire country has been covered by this programme. The expert said we are now doing a follow-up work vaccinating young calves to protect them against any outbreak of such diseases.

According to Comrade Dr. Ayalew, the team has been able to vaccinate a total of 8,493,647 animals throughout the country against rinderpest and pleuro-pneumonia in 1981. He said the vaccination programme will continue until these diseases are completely eradicated. The JP-15 campaign against animal diseases has been financed by a number of international organizations including the World Bank, the OAU, UNDP, FAO and others. He said the positive results obtained in the campaign against Rinderpest and pleuro-pneumonia has considerably contributed in reducing the mortality rate of animals in the country.

In addition to the two diseases mentioned earlier, the veterinary service team has given vaccinations to 3,667,126 animals last year. The animals were vaccinated against such diseases known as black leg, anthrax, African horse sickness, sheep and goat pox, foot and mouth disease, Newcastle disease, rabies and fowl typhoid. The vaccinations were mainly given as prophylactic measures to protect animals against any outbreak of these diseases. A total of 1,689,959 animals including cattle, sheep and goats were also treated for external diseases, namely, teaks, manges, lice and warble flies. Treatment for internal diseases, such liver, fluks, intestinal parasites and lung parasites were given to 960,582 all over the country last year. Some 44,700 animals were given clinical treatment during the same period.

## Different Units

The Veterinary Service has under it a number of units covering field service, meat inspection and quarantine, tse-tse fly and tripanosomiasis study and control division. In respect to field activities, the team maintains field offices in all administrative regions of the country, which in turn operate provincial clinics and district animal health centres. The district animal health centres are connected with vocation posts, that are serving peasants' associations.

In respect to manpower, the Veterinary Service Team has a total of 888 Ethiopians and 61 foreign experts. These are composed of veterinarians, animal health assistants, laboratory technicians and vaccinators. The number of vaccinators is 632, while 175 are animal health assistants. There are 24 veterinary doctors assigned to different parts of the country.

Comrade Dr. Ayalew also described the main tasks of the meat inspection and quarantine services. These involve approving the hygienic condition of slaughter houses, hides and skins' warehouses and any organization which deals with the processing of animal and animal products (live animal, meat, and meat products, hides and skins, wildlife and their trophies), to certify imported and exported animals on the basis of international rules and regulations.

On the basis of figures made available, last year Ethiopia exported 521,771 pieces of hides and 5,270,800 pieces of skins. The figure for processed skins for the same period stood at 2,954,962 pieces, while that of hides was 44,325 pieces. The export of live animals was 31,663 cattle and 11,322 sheep and goats. The same year Ethiopia exported 856,706 kilos of meat and 2,023 wildlife trophies.

In his concluding remark Comrade Dr. Ayalew Ketsela stressed the importance of building a cadre of trained manpower in order to be able to provide adequate veterinary services for the whole country. He said we should have qualified personnel in the various disciplines of veterinary science. He said it is not only in the area of health alone but the art of livestock management has to be equally developed so that the nation could draw maximum benefits out of its immense livestock potential.

CSO: 5400/5952



## RABID FOX ENTERS JERUSALEM ZOO

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by Abraham Rabinovich]

[Text] A rabid fox which entered the Jerusalem Municipal Zoo from outside was shot dead yesterday by a zoo-keeper.

The fox was presumably the same one which entered the zoo the day before, bit a hyena after penetrating his cage and escaped. A test carried out at the Veterinary Institute in Bait Vagan proved that the dead fox had been rabid.

A quarantine was clamped down on the zoo by Dr. Abraham Kronenberg, district veterinarian of the Agriculture Ministry. Municipal veterinary officials said the zoo would remain open to the public but that there would be no exchange of animals between cages and no exchange of animals with other zoos until the quarantine is lifted. Kronenberg also ordered the zoos' fences and cages strengthened to prevent penetration of animals from outside.

The fox was shot about 9 am. with a rifle by chief zoo-keeper Yitzhak Yedid, 22. Acquaintances said yesterday that Yedid often slept overnight at the zoo in order to be close to the animals. Veterinary officials speculated that the fox was drawn to the zoo by the smell of

food. The zoo is located close to open wadis north of the city.

In the past two months, five rabid foxes have been found dead, close to the Jerusalem city limits mostly to the west. Municipal veterinarian Tommy Sade described the penetration of a rabid animal into the built-up city as serious and cautioned dog owners to keep their animals from wandering unleashed on the streets. Stray dogs are being picked up by the municipality and destroyed.

The last time a rabid animal was found in the city was in December, 1976 when a small white dog bit close to a score of other animals during a rampage.

CSO: 5400/4722



## VACCINE DEVELOPED AGAINST CALF DISEASE

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Feb 82 p 14

[Article by Aharon Priel: Vaccines Against Intestinal Diseases Developed at the Veterinary Institute"]

[Text] Researchers at the departments of bacteriology and immunology at the Kimron Veterinary Institute at Beyt Degan have developed, after many years of research and field tests, two kinds of effective vaccines against intestinal disease in calves.

This disease, caused by a violent coli strain, is widely fatal to calves, occasionally up to 60 percent at a number of farms, and brings about economic losses in cattle herds in this country and throughout the world. There are also known cases of total annihilation of barns for lack of any means to combat this death-dealing disease.

Mortality of week-old calves constitutes an enormous and direct loss to the individual herdsman, since it is beyond his capability to raise calves for market in accordance with a supply schedule, to an age of 10 months. The national economy is dealt a severe economic blow: calf mortality reduces the rate of production of meat or milk.

One method of immunization is the vaccination of cows in early stages of pregnancy and the feeding of the cholestrol of the immunized cows to the calves. This method is employed by the doctors at Hahla'it. The serum is commercially produced by the Vineland Company at Beyt Aharon.

The second method is to have the calf sip a new preparation containing special immunoglobulins. The preparation is manufactured commercially by the Asia-Ma'Abarot.

Researchers throughout the world have already been dealing for many years in studies to discover the specific elements causing the disease, as well as in a search for ways to prevent its spread. Success of the researchers at the Veterinary Institute in developing two methods of effective immunization has earned them prominence throughout the world.

8090

CSO: 5400/4718

## BRIEFS

ANTHRAX OUTBREAK--A case of anthrax, the deadly livestock disease, has been detected at Chesoen village in Bomet area of Kericho District. Local Public Health Officer, Mr. Morris D. Angwekwe said in a statement that a villager who was skinning a dead cow suffering from the disease had to be rushed to Kaplong Mission hospital after germs entered his body through a cut on his finger. Blood samples taken from him showed the patient had contracted the disease. The officer warned that anthrax was a dangerous disease and that nobody should eat meat from dead animals. [Text] [Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 22 Mar 82 p 5]

CSO: 5400/5925

## PHILIPPINES

### BRIEFS

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CHECKED--Bacolod City--A total of 10,800 animals has been immunized to control the spread of the reported outbreak of hoof-and-mouth disease of livestock in northern Negros Occidental. Pablito Tumbos, livestock and poultry technologist of the provincial veterinary office here, said 800 carabaos, 3,000 cows, 5,000 pigs and 2,000 goats have been immunized in the towns of Calatrava and San Carlos City in Northern Negros. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Apr 82 p 3]

CSO: 5400/5927

## FAO PROVIDES EMERGENCY AID TO COMBAT FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 7 Apr 82 p 5

[Text]

**THE Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has given Zambia about K116,000 in emergency aid to combat foot and mouth disease inflicting cattle in Southern Province.**

Announcing this in a Press statement yesterday, FAO office in Lusaka said the organisation would launch two projects worth K501,000 under its food security assistance scheme to help Zambia enhance her food security.

The K116,000 aid is in form of more than 300,000 doses of foot and mouth disease vaccine which would supplement an already on-going Government campaign for the control of the disease to prevent it from spreading throughout the country.

"Foot and mouth disease can be a major constraint to the development of the livestock industry and inter-

national trade in animals and animal products in Zambia," the statement said.

The donation comes after the Government's request to the organisation under the auspices of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) and the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) FAO would buy the vaccine from Botswana.

The outbreak of the disease in Southern Province has led to a critical shortage of beef on the Copperbelt and some parts of Central and Lusaka provinces.

The situation has been aggravated by the move taken by State ranches and commercial farmers on the line of rail to sell weaner steers to organisations that fatten them before slaughter.

As a result of the beef shortage some butchers in Lusaka have reportedly been closed.

CSO: 5400/5933

## FEARS OF MASSIVE ARMY WORM INVASION

Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 16 Mar 82 p 2

[Text]

ARMY worms and larvae destroyed more than 30,000 hectares (300 square kilometres) of food crops, sugarcane and pasture grassland last month in a period of two weeks.

A fresh outbreak of army worm caterpillars is feared between now and July this year and already this month large masses of eggs will hatch into millions of hungry caterpillars capable of ravaging a massive acreage of crops and grassland.

This was revealed yesterday by Mr Onyango Okoro, a forecasting officer attached to the Desert Locust Control Organisation of East Africa and the Kenya Agricultural Institute.

He said the pests last month destroyed crops including young maize sorghum, rice, finger millet, wheat, sugarcane and pasture grasses.

The areas which were affected include Taita Taveta in the Coast Province, Narok and Kericho districts in the Rift Valley Province, and virtually all the districts in Nyanza and Western Provinces, he added.

Mr Okoro said newly-planted cereal crops and germinating grasses will be threatened.

He called on provincial and district agricultural officers and chemical companies to prepare

contingency plans for the control of army worms in all the grain growing areas, as well as in pastoral and range lands.

He also urged members of the public who detect any invasion by the worms to alert agricultural and administrative authorities.

Meanwhile, an official of the Ministry of Agriculture has said that sufficient chemicals have been bought by the Ministry to combat the pests which have been reported in Kisumu, South Nyanza, Kisii, Kericho, Narok, Bura and Nandi districts.

Farmers in these areas have been urged to report any incidents of the worms to their nearest agricultural offices which have sufficient chemicals to cope with any further outbreaks.

The official, Mr Dominiano Kahuru Njeru, who is the Regional Crop Protection officer for west of the Rift made the assurance in a statement to the KNA at Nakuru yesterday.

Mr Njeru said all early outbreaks of army worms in those areas have been contained and wanted farmers to be on the alert to avoid any destruction of crops by the worms.

The officer, however, cautioned field officers to avoid capitalising on the outbreaks of the worms by seeking publicity.

## BRIEFS

INFESTATION THREATENS ILOCOS COTTONFIELDS--Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration Chairman and General Manager Federico B. Moreno expressed yesterday alarm over reports that massive aphid infestation of cotton fields in Sta. Maria, Ilocos Sur is threatening to invade the nearby Virginia tobacco farms. A team of PVTA technologists reported to Moreno that the swarm of cotton aphid affecting the area is the pink aphid that could also be destructive to beans, okra and ipil-ipil plantations in outlying areas. It was also reported that cotton farmers in the affected farms have all given up cotton farming because of their inability to arrest the spread of the destructive aphid. Moreno also received reports that some burley tobacco plantations in Pangasinan are in danger of being invaded by the same type of aphid. The report indicated that the host plant of this aphid are cotton plants in the neighboring areas. Moreno meanwhile ordered all PVTA technologists in the affected barangays to take all necessary steps to prevent the spread of this destructive aphid. [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Apr 82 p 28]

CSO: 5400/5944

## CONTROVERSY OVER USE OF COTTON PESTICIDES RESTS 'ON FALSE ATTITUDES'

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 18 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] THE controversy over the use of cotton pesticides, *Thiodan* and *U-Kombi*, in Shinyanga Region seems to rest on false attitudes rather than scientific findings, an entomologist and cotton field staff have said.

The experts were commenting on a Shinyanga Regional Development Committee's ruling last year that only *Thiodan*, chemical name *endosulfan*, — be used in controlling pests allegedly because peasants in the area had rejected *U-Kombi*, formulated from DDT 35 per cent and Methidathion 15 per cent.

But Professor Hosea Kayumbo, who chaired a meeting of the Cotton Research Co-ordinating Committee called specifically to deliberate on the issue on July 10, 1980 said yesterday that both pesticides were perfect alternatives of each other.

The co-ordinating committee drew 17 participants from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Tanzania Cotton Authority (TCA), the Prime Minister's Office and various entomologists from the country's research organisations.

At the time, field tests had shown that *U-Kombi* gave similar bollworm control as *Thiodan*. The American bollworm is a major pest in all cotton growing areas.

However, the tests also showed that *U-Kombi* had better aphid control over *Thiodan*. Aphids are sucking pests along with stainers and calixes SPP, all of which are widely distributed pests in the southern zone of the western cotton growing areas — Shinyanga, Ngeza and Maswa.

A TCA field man has, however, said that *U-Kombi* had an upper edge over *Thiodan* because of its effective control of both sucking pests and the American bollworm.

The TCA official said *Thiodan* efficacy was good with bollworms but rather inept with stainers, aphids and calixes SPP, and that a back-up spray of *Hostathion* is necessary if *Thiodan* is used.

These views were shared by an official from the Prime Minister's Office, who also said alleged protests by peasants over the use of *U-Kombi* were baseless.

According to the official, both chemicals were equally effective in combating cotton pests.

He said a study on their effectiveness had proved both *Thiodan* and *U-Kombi* were comparable in efficacy provided they were properly applied.

The Shinyanga RDC has alleged that *U-Kombi* was not only inferior to *Thiodan* but also tended to destroy the cotton bush and to reduce soil fertility.

"There is no scientific basis for the peasants' resistance to *U-Kombi*," he said.

The official said a tour of cotton-growing areas in Shinyanga Region by the Cotton Research Co-ordinating Committee and a representative of the Prime Minister's Office showed that *U-Kombi* was "as good if not better than *Thiodan*", depending on application.

Growers seem to prefer *Thiodan* because it had been used in cotton growing areas longer than *U-Kombi* which has been introduced in recent years.



## MAIZE BORER PESTICIDE YIELDING GOOD RESULTS

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 13 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by Halima Shariff]

[Text]

TRIAL spraying of the pesticide *Actellic* (two per cent dust) recommended for killing the maize boring beetle dubbed *Scania* is yielding good results in Tabora Region.

Reports reaching Dar es Salaam from Tabora said yesterday that the pesticide was most effective against the *Scania*.

The Acting Regional Agricultural Development Officer, Ndugu I.S. Kasangula, told the *Daily News* in a telephone interview from Tabora that peasants have expressed satisfaction with the pesticide.

The Ministry of Agriculture recommended the use of the pesticide earlier this month and trial spraying was undertaken at the Itumbi Agricultural Research Station, a few kilometres from Tabora. Some of the pesticide was distributed to peasants.

Ndugu Kasangula said the region last Thursday received five tonnes of the pesticide from the ministry and ex-

pects another lot of the same quantity next week. The pesticide will be distributed throughout the region.

He said the region had asked for some 15 tonnes of the pesticide to be used during the harvest season to start next month.

Presently, he said, the grain boring beetle is found in Utyankulu Division and Urambo.

Maize harvesting has already started in Tabora Rural and Urambo districts where peasants expect to reap 50,000 tonnes of maize.

Other regions whose harvests are threatened by the *Scania*, originating from America, are Shinyanga, Mwanza and Morogoro, mainly in Kilosa District.

The *Scania* first broke out in Urambo District in March, last year. The beetle has since spread to Shinyanga, Mwanza, Morogoro and Mara Regions.

The beetle can destroy maize in a sack within less than three months.

CSO: 5400/5943

## BRIEFS

ARMYWORM DESTRUCTION AT PRISON FARM--SERENGETI--Armyworms have destroyed 395 acres of maize and "serena" millet on a farm of the Tabora "B" prison here, all valued at 98,650/-. Chief Warder A.M. Kidalo told Shihata that the prison had replanted after the initial crop was destroyed by the heavy feeding minute pests. Apart from agriculture, he said, the prison now had 1,900 beef and 103 dairy cattle, adding that last year, the prison realised a total of 108,700/- from the sale of 116 cows. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 22 Mar 82 p 3]

KAHAMA DISTRICT GRAIN BORER INVASION--KAHAMA district is reported to have been invaded by a grain borer technically known as *Phostephanus truncatus*. The Kahama District leaders have asked the government for 700,000/- to buy 35 tons of Actellic 2 per cent insecticide to fight the pest. The Kahama District Agricultural Development Officer, Ndugu A. Kipoya, told Shihata in Kahama that the request had already been approved by the Shinyanga Regional Development Committee. Ndugu Kipoya said an official of the Kahama District Agricultural Development Office had left Shinyanga for Dar es Salaam to collect 2.5 tons of the insecticide promised by the parent ministry. The district had earlier received a consignment of two tons of the insecticide. Ndugu Kipoya said the pests are "eating up everything"--maize, rice, cassava and even wood--and that there was danger of famine if the situation were left unchecked. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 30 Mar 82 p 3]

ARMYWORMS INVADE RUKWA REGION--SUMBAWANGA--Armyworms have invaded Rukwa Region and have already attacked maize millet farms in Kaengesa, Sopa, Mwazy, Matai, Kizwite and Kasense wards, the Agricultural Department has reported. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 31 Mar 82 p 3]

CSO: 5400/5943

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED AGAINST COCHINEAL INSECT

Adana YENI ADANA in Turkish 5 Feb 82 pp 3, 5

[Text] It has been announced that 1.75 million kilos of white grease has been used to treat 3.5 million citrus trees in Cukurova against the cochineal insect. Campaigns of this kind are reported to be 100 percent successful. Authorities from the regional office of agricultural campaigns and quarantines have said that collaboration with producers as well as the dissemination of educational information are being used to prevent losses.

The authorities said that, during the campaign planned for the summer and winter periods of 1981, 189,000 citrus trees in Adana were treated with white grease to combat the cochineal insect. In addition, 435,000 trees were treated in Hatay while 2.95 million were treated in Icel. The campaign is reported to have been 100 percent successful. According to authorities, an aggressive campaign for treating 242,000 trees in Adana, 435,000 trees in Hatay and 2.92 million trees in Icel is being planned for 1982.

9491

CSO: 5400/5318

MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST OLIVE FLY

Adana YENI ADANA in Turkish 5 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] It has been announced that crop losses of 60 to 70 percent are being incurred in Cukurova during periods when no measures are taken against the olive fly.

Officials from the Regional Office of Agricultural Campaigns and Quarantines have announced that growers have been warned as well as informed of the problem represented by the olive fly. The fly brings about dehydration and oil loss in olives and leads to a loss in market value. Officials have also said that equipment shortages have been eliminated and that, in 1981, pesticides have been used to protect 305,000 olive trees. Of these, 82,500 were in Adana, 23,000 in Hatay, 17,000 in Icel and 7,000 in Kahraman Maras.

Officials have announced that 295,000 trees are to be included in the 1982 campaign program. Of these, 72,500 are in Adana, 25,000 in Gaziantep, 173,000 in Hatay, 17,500 in Icel and 7,000 in Kahraman Maras.

9491

CSO: 5400/5318

ADANA MOSQUITO ERADICATION

Adana YENI ADANA in Turkish 10 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] It has been announced that the utilization of pesticides in swamps and bogs harboring mosquitoes within Adana and its surroundings will begin on 15 March.

According to information provided by the Regional Directorate of the Campaign Against Malaria, the early utilization of pesticides at the old dam and its surroundings towards the end of March 1981 has provided favorable results against mosquitoes. The early utilization of pesticides last year represented the first instance in which this technique was implemented in Adana. To ensure greater effectiveness during the current year, utilization will begin during the middle of March.

Authorities have drawn attention to the fact that malaria cases have shown a large-scale increase in Adana and its surroundings over the past 2 years. They have indicated that different methods will be used this year to contain the disease at a given level.

9491

CSO: 5400/5318

VIETNAM

RICE BLAST COULD AFFECT 100,000 HECTARES

BK090544 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] During February and March the average temperature in many localities was under 20 degrees celsius and the humidity was over 80 percent, while there was sunshine for less than 1 hour per day and light drizzles occurred 10 days per month. This condition is favorable to the spreading of harmful insects, especially rice blast, brown leafhoppers and leaf folders, enemies of the 5th-month spring rice.

The climate over the past few months and in the coming months has been favorable to the expansion of rice blast, thus creating an adverse effect on the rice growing and rice blooming stages.

More than 70 percent of rice cultivated areas was planted with easily infected rice varieties such as the "Nong Nghiep 8," "Nong Nghiep 75-10," and "CR-101." These varieties were planted mostly on dense rice growing areas which are favorable to the expansion of rice blast.

In Nghe Tinh Province rice blast is ravaging about 20,000 hectares of ricefields, 500 hectares of which have been seriously damaged. In Thai Binh Province, rice blast has appeared in Thai Thuy, Dong Hung and Kien Xuong districts.

According to an estimate made by the vegetation protection department of the Ministry of Agriculture, rice blast may expand to over 100,000 hectares of ricefields in this 5th-month spring crop.

The Ministry of Agriculture has urged localities to follow up this situation closely in order to take measures to prevent ricefields from being damaged, especially prior to the rice-blooming stage, when damage caused by rice blast is usually serious.

CSO: 5400/5934

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